(c) and (d) No such proposal to replace the PDS is under consideration at present. However, the Government has launched many schemes, including employment generating schemes, for the welfare of the poor.

List of criminals furnished by Pakistan

819. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has provided any list of alleged Pakistani criminals who were illegally staying in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) (a) No, Sir.

In public Pakistani leaders have been making statements to the effect that Pakistan plans to handover its own list of wanted Pakistani criminals allegedly residing in India. These are clearly propagandist ploys by Pakistan to divert attention from the fact that it has not taken any action on the list of 20 fugitives from law handed over to them by India on 31st December 2001.

(b) does not arise.

Agenda of PoK in Indo-Pak talk

820. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement appearing in the Telegraph on 4th February, 2002 that when the talks begin with Pakistan on Kashmir, the issue of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir would top the agenda;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister's reported statement signals a new emphasis in the strategy;

(c) whether this aspect of Kashmir dispute has been formally communicated to the authorities in Pakistan; and

(d) if so, their reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen the report appearing in the Telegraph on 4th February 2002.

(b) to (d) It has been India's well known and consistent position that the State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. Under the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, India is committed to resolving all issues with Pakistan, peacefully through direct bilateral approaches.

Missing entries of passports issued at Houston

821. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether entries of Indian Passports issued by India's Consulate General at Houston from 1995 to 1998 are missing;

(b) if so, the reasons for not bringing it to Government's notice immediately after the lapse; and

(c) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMARABDULLAH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Issuance of passports and visas to undesirable elements

822. DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether issuing of passports and visas to the undesirable elements and anti-national elements by the Indian Embassies and Consulates abroad have come to light recently suspecting that Al-Quaida and other terrorists were issued passports and visas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in cover-up bid the Embassies/Consulates have destroyed the relevant records;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government have taken in this regard and what action is proposed to prevent recurrence of such incidents?